IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amened): An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:

a photoconductive element provided with a photoconductive layer on a surface thereof;

~~charging~~ means for uniformly charging the surface of said photoconductive element;

~~exposing~~ means for exposing the surface of said photoconductive element charged by said ~~charging~~ means for uniformly charging to thereby form a latent image;

a developing unit ~~means for developing~~ configured to develop the latent image with toner, the development unit comprising a development roller ~~by feeding~~ configured to feed said toner to said photoconductive element to thereby produce a corresponding toner image and ~~collecting~~ to collect residual toner left on said photoconductive element ~~after image transfer~~;

~~image transferring~~ means for transferring the toner image from said photoconductive element to a subject body;

~~air sending~~ means for sending air to a space around said photoconductive element; and

~~air conditioning~~ means for dehumidifying air to be sent by said ~~air sending~~ means for sending.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein dehumidified air output from said ~~air sending~~ means for dehumidifying is sent into an image forming module accommodating said photoconductive element, said ~~charging~~ means for

uniformly charging and said developing ~~means~~ unit and removably mounted to a casing of said apparatus.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said ~~air conditioning~~ means for dehumidifying is disposed in said image forming module.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said ~~charging~~ means for uniformly charging comprises a contact type charger.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said ~~air conditioning~~ means for dehumidifying controls air temperature while dehumidifying air.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the toner stored in said developing ~~means~~ unit is produced by polymerization.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:

a plurality of photoconductive elements each being provided with a photoconductive layer on a surface thereof;

a plurality of ~~charging~~ means each for uniformly charging the surface of one of said plurality of photoconductive elements;

at least one ~~exposing~~ means for exposing the surface of each of said plurality of photoconductive elements charged by one of said ~~charging~~ plurality of means for uniformly charging to thereby form a latent image;

a plurality of developing ~~means~~ units each ~~for developing~~ configured to develop a latent image ~~formed on one of said plurality of photoconductive elements~~ with toner of a particular color, each of the plurality of developing units comprising a developing roller configured to feed said toner of the particular color to one of said plurality of photoconductive elements to thereby produce a corresponding toner image and ~~collecting~~ to collect residual toner left on the one of said plurality of photoconductive ~~element~~ elements ~~after image transfer~~;

a plurality of ~~image transferring~~ means each for transferring the toner image from one of said plurality of photoconductive elements to a subject body;

~~air sending~~ means for sending air to spaces around said plurality of photoconductive elements; and

~~air conditioning~~ means for dehumidifying air to be sent by said ~~air sending~~ means for sending.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein dehumidified air output from said ~~air sending~~ means for sending is sent into a plurality of image forming modules each accommodating one of said plurality of photoconductive elements, one of said plurality of ~~charging~~ means for uniformly charging and one of said plurality of developing ~~means~~ units and removably mounted to a casing of said apparatus.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said ~~air conditioning~~ means for dehumidifying is disposed in each of said plurality of image forming modules.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein each of said plurality of ~~charging~~ means for uniformly charging ~~each comprise~~ comprises a contact type charger.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said ~~air conditioning~~ means for dehumidifying controls air temperature while dehumidifying air.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the toner stored in each of said plurality of developing ~~means~~ units is produced by polymerization.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:

one photoconductive element provided with a photoconductive layer on a surface thereof;

~~one charging~~ means for uniformly charging the surface of said photoconductive element;

~~one exposing~~ means for exposing the surface of said photoconductive element charged by said ~~charging~~ means for uniformly charging to thereby form a latent image;

a plurality of developing ~~means~~ units arranged around said photoconductive element, ~~and~~ each developing unit ~~storing~~ being configured to store toner of a particular color ~~for developing~~ and to develop the latent image with said toner, and each developing unit comprising a development roller configured to feed said toner to said photoconductive element to thereby produce a corresponding toner image and ~~collecting~~ to collect residual toner left on said photoconductive element ~~after image transfer~~;

~~one image transferring~~ means for sequentially transferring toner images sequentially formed on said photoconductive element to a subject body one above the other;

~~air sending~~ means for sending air to a space around said photoconductive element; and

~~air conditioning~~ means for dehumidifying air to be sent by said ~~air sending~~ means for sending.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein dehumidified air output from said ~~air sending~~ means for sending is sent into an image forming module accommodating said photoconductive element, said ~~charging~~ means for uniformly charging and said plurality of developing ~~means~~ units and removably mounted to a casing of said apparatus.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein said ~~air conditioning~~ means for dehumidifying is disposed in said image forming module.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein said ~~charging~~ means for uniformly charging comprises a contact type charger.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein said ~~air conditioning~~ means for dehumidifying controls air temperature while dehumidifying air.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the toner stored in each of said plurality of developing ~~means~~ unit is produced by polymerization.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:

a photoconductive element provided with a photoconductive layer on a surface thereof;

a charger configured to uniformly charge the surf ace of said photoconductive element;

an exposing unit configured to expose the surface of said photoconductive element charged by said charger to thereby form a latent image;

a developing device configured to develop the latent image with toner, the developing device comprising a development roller configured to feed ~~by feeding~~ said toner to said photoconductive element to thereby produce a corresponding toner image and to collect residual toner left on said photoconductive element ~~after image transfer~~;

an image transferring device configured to transfer the toner image from said photoconductive element to a subject body;

an air sending device for sending air to a space around said photoconductive element; and

an air conditioning device for dehumidifying air to be sent by said air sending ~~means~~ device.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:

a plurality of photoconductive elements each being provided with a photoconductive layer on a surface thereof;

a plurality of chargers each being configured to uniformly charge the surface of one of said plurality of photoconductive elements;

at least one exposing unit configured to expose the surface of each of said plurality of photoconductive elements charged by one of said plurality of chargers to thereby form a latent image;

a plurality of developing devices each being configured to develop a latent image formed on one of said plurality of photoconductive elements with toner of a particular color, each of the plurality of developing devices comprising a developing roller configured to feed the toner of the particular color to respective one of the plurality of photoconductive elements to thereby produce a corresponding toner image and to collect residual toner left on the respective one of the plurality of photoconductive ~~element~~ elements ~~after image transfer~~;

a plurality of image transferring devices each being configured to transfer the toner image from one of said plurality of photoconductive elements to a subject body;

an air sending device configured to send air to spaces around said plurality of photoconductive elements; and

an air conditioning device configured to dehumidify air to be sent by said air sending device.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:

a photoconductive element provided with a photoconductive layer on a surface thereof;

a charger configured to uniformly charge the surface of said photoconductive element;

an exposing unit configured to expose the surface of said photoconductive element charged by said charger to thereby form a latent image;

a plurality of developing devices arranged around said photoconductive element and each being configured to store toner of a particular color for developing the latent image with said toner, each developing device comprising a developing roller configured to feed the toner to the photoconductive element to thereby produce a corresponding toner image and to collect residual toner left on said photoconductive element ~~after image transfer~~;

an image transferring device configured to sequentially transfer toner images sequentially formed on said photoconductive element to a subject body one above the other;

an air sending device configured to send air to a space around said photoconductive element; and

an air conditioning device configured to dehumidify air to be sent by said air sending ~~means~~ device.